



Amendments to the Claims

1. (Amended) A trailer for delivering asphalt material to a paving machine comprising:

a trailer bed for holding asphalt material, wherein said trailer bed has a dump end and a lowered position;

a trailer frame having at least one axle;

at least one hinge arm ~~having a length~~ separating two end portions, wherein a first one of said two end portions is fixed to said trailer bed a horizontal distance offset from said axle opposite the direction of said trailer bed dump end, and a second one of said two end portions is mounted to said axle such that a closest connection between said trailer bed and said axle is non-vertical when said trailer bed is in said lowered position; and,

wherein said hinge arm and said trailer bed define a gap open towards said dump end direction in ~~the~~ an angle between said hinge arm and said trailer bed.
2. (Cancelled).
3. (Previously Presented) The trailer of claim 1 wherein said trailer includes at least two parallel hinge arms.
4. (Previously Presented) The trailer of claim 1 wherein said trailer includes at least two axles.

5. (Original) The trailer of claim 1 wherein said axle is mounted below said frame.
6. (Original) The trailer of claim 1 wherein said second end portion is pivotably mounted to said axle.
7. (Original) The trailer of claim 1 wherein said trailer is a full length dump trailer.
8. (Original) The trailer of claim 1 wherein said trailer is a semi-length dump trailer.
9. (Original) The trailer of claim 1 wherein said trailer is a full frame trailer.
10. (Original) The trailer of claim 1 wherein said trailer is a half frame trailer.
11. (Amended) The trailer of claim 1 wherein said trailer further comprises a mud flap bracket substantially parallel to said hinge arm and attached to said trailer bed between said hinge arm and said trailer bed dump end.

Claims 12-16 (Cancelled).

17. (Amended) A trailer for delivering asphalt material to a paving machine comprising:

a trailer frame having a back portion;

a trailer bed mounted to said trailer frame for holding asphalt material, wherein said trailer bed has at least one connection location and wherein said trailer bed is movable between a lowered position and a raised position;

at least one hinge arm connected to said trailer bed at a said at least one connection location and further connected to said trailer frame, wherein a closest connection between said trailer bed and said trailer frame is non-vertical, and wherein said hinge arm operates to move said at least one connection location upward and backward relative to said trailer frame when said trailer bed is moved between said lowered position and said raised position; and,

wherein said hinge arm and said trailer bed define a gap open towards said back portion direction in ~~the~~ an angle between said hinge arm and said trailer bed.

Claims 18-23 (Cancelled).

24. (Previously Presented) The trailer of claim 17, further comprising:

at least one axle mounted to said trailer frame;

wherein said at least one hinge arm is pivotably connected to said at least one axle.

Claims 25 and 26 (Cancelled).

27. (Previously Presented) The trailer of claim 17, wherein said at least one hinge arm further comprises:

a frame end,

wherein said frame end is pivotably connected to said trailer frame at a horizontal distance between the back portion of said trailer frame and said at least one trailer bed connection location.

28. (Previously Presented). The trailer of claim 27, further comprising:
at least one axle mounted to said trailer frame;
wherein said frame end of said at least one hinge arm is pivotably mounted to said axle.

29. (Previously Presented) The trailer of claim 28, wherein said trailer bed and said axle define a closest vertical distance, and wherein the length of said at least one hinge arm is greater than the closest vertical distance between said trailer bed and said axle.

30. (Previously Presented) The trailer of claim 17, further comprising:
at least one mud flap unit having a bed end fixed to said trailer bed and a flap end having a mud flap;
wherein said at least one mud flap unit is substantially parallel to said at least one hinge arm.

Claims 31-35 (Cancelled).

36. (Withdrawn) A dump trailer for delivering material to a container with a front panel, comprising:

a trailer frame with a pivot location having a pivot height;
a container with a front panel, wherein said front panel has a height equal to or greater than the height of said pivot location;
a dump bed with a raised position and a lowered position; and
a hinge arm attached to said dump bed and pivotably attached to said trailer frame at said pivot location, wherein said hinge arm is situated to allow the container front panel to pass through a line defined as passing through said pivot location and perpendicular to said dump bed without said hinge arm contacting the front panel as said dump bed moves from said lowered position to said raised position.

37. (New) The trailer of claim 1 wherein said at least one hinge arm has a length, and said trailer bed and said axle define a closest vertical distance, and wherein the length of said at least one hinge arm is greater than said closest vertical distance between said trailer bed and said axle.

38. (New) The trailer of claim 17 wherein said at least one hinge arm has a length, wherein said length of at least one hinge arm is greater than a vertical distance between said trailer bed and said trailer frame when said trailer bed is in said lowered position.